



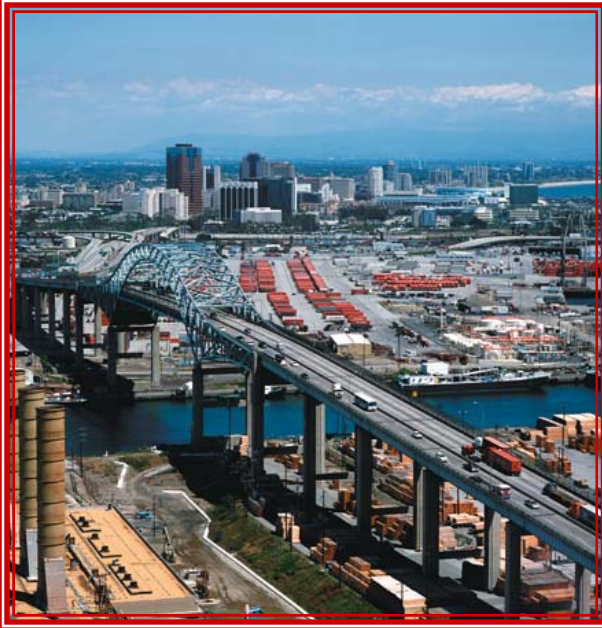
MARAD Update



Official Journal of the Maritime Administration

Volume 4, Issue 2

New Intermodal Gateway Office in Long Beach, California



The port facilities in Los Angeles and Long Beach combine to handle an average of 15 to 16 ships each day, and the ports together move 43 percent of all cargo container traffic destined for the United States.

Above: The Gerald Desmond Bridge links Terminal Island with downtown Long Beach.

The port complex of Los Angeles and Long Beach, the busiest seaport in the United States, is getting some extra attention from the federal government.

U.S. Secretary of Transportation Norman Y. Mineta unveiled his department's Southern California Gateway Initiative, which includes the opening of a Long Beach office to provide federal officials with the latest information about growth and challenges facing the port and its customers.

Under Secretary for Policy Jeffrey Shane shared the news with local officials and port users.

Secretary Mineta says the initiative includes an on-site federal liaison who will be located in Long Beach and will monitor conditions at the busy port. The liaison, Randy Rogers from the Maritime Administration, will report directly

to the Secretary and the U.S. Maritime Administrator. Randy Rogers is from the Maritime Administration's Western Region office.

John Jamian, who is now MARAD's Acting Administrator, conceived and promoted the idea for the Long Beach office. Mr. Jamian said, "A growing U.S. economy has kept the nation's largest port complex in Southern California busy with ships carrying cargo destined for manufacturers and store shelves across the country. As freight volumes continue to escalate, it is critical that this port complex remain able to keep the nation's economy moving."



Left to Right: Acting Maritime Administrator John Jamian; Mayor of Long Beach, California, Beverly O'Neill; Undersecretary for Transportation Policy Jeffrey Shane

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